



THE RESOLUTE AND SPAIN'S COMMISSIONERS.

Braving the fate of the battleship Maine, the United States transport Resolute now lies at anchor in Havana harbor, with the American commission of capitulation—Admiral Sampson, General Wade and General Butler—on board. The Spanish commissioners are D. Rafael Montoro, Assistant Captain General Gonzales Parrado and Admiral Manterola of Spain's navy. These commissioners, three for the United States and three for Spain, will arrange for the withdrawal of the Spanish army from Cuba and will settle various vexatious problems that will arise during the course of the negotiations.

OPERA HOUSE DESTROYED.

A Sad Affair at Newport News.

MANY HAVE A NARROW ESCAPE.

Richmond Workmen Injured.

NEWPORT NEWS, Va., Oct. 25, 1898. The new colored opera-house which has just been erected at the corner of Madison Avenue and Twenty-third Street, and on which the finishing touches were being placed, collapsed at 3:20 o'clock this afternoon. Walter Rodgers, who was superintending the work on the top floor of the building, received fatal injuries. Edward Rodgers, a brother of the dead foreman, is missing, and it is believed that his body is under the debris.

A LARGE STRUCTURE. The opera-house was a large brick structure, covering two lots, and was three stories high. It was erected by an organization of colored men known as the Columbian Investment Association. The men working on the building who saw the collapse say that the roof first caved in, and its weight on the next floor forced the walls to spread, the third floor sliding to one side and the second to the other, causing complete destruction almost to the ground.

A ROARING CRASH. The roaring crash of the collapse was heard by people several squares off, and soon attracted an immense crowd. The means of the unfortunate men under the ruins were distinctly heard by the by-standers, and every man who could make himself useful assisted in rescuing the victims. Walter Rodgers died shortly after being moved to his home. Henry Newell, a colored plasterer, was internally injured, and was taken out just in time to be saved from certain death under a part of the wall, which tumbled as soon as his rescuers pulled him from the debris. Other men injured painfully are A. J. Timberlake, James Dudley, Max McGuire, Sam Jones (colored) R. Owen and William Reagan.

A GREAT CALAMITY. Eye-witnesses of the calamity saw a man appear at a second-story window and leap for his life. On striking the ground he fell, and before he could rise again the wall was upon him. Several men saw this man, who is believed to be Edward Rodgers, caught under the falling bricks. A force of men worked at the ruins until dark, but no trace of any other victim has been found.

Walter Rodgers was a native of Charles City county. He leaves a wife and several children. Several of the injured men hail from Richmond.

BADLY BURNED.

The three-story structure at 715 N. 3d St., known as Ponce-de-Leon Hotel was in a light blaze at about 2:10 Wed-

nesday morning. The fire was confined to the rear portion and it was some time before an alarm of fire was turned in.

The Fire Department had the flames under control in about half an hour. Mr. J. P. Johnson, who moved his store from Old Wellons Hall to this place was on hand, but lost nothing either by fire or water.

The building was originally built and owned by Mr. Nat. Williams, but is now owned by the Old Dominion Building and Loan Association. The loss on the building was about \$600. The families occupying the structure were moving out on the night of the fire and furniture wagons have been busy there ever since.

REV. BROWN'S LOAN.

Attorney Jackson Secures Judgments Against Prominent Citizens—The End Not Yet.

Judgments were secured on Saturday, Oct. 22, in the Circuit Court of this city in favor of Mrs. M. A. Browne executrix of the estate of Rev. W. W. Browne, against the following persons: Rev. Z. D. Lewis, D. D., \$91; Rev. M. E. Gerst, \$91; Mr. Nelson Williams, Jr., \$100; Rev. Sutton E. Griggs, B. D., \$100; W. A. Payne, \$91 and others.

It seems that the notes were drawn in favor of themselves, Dec. 14, 1896, by the above named gentlemen, together with Rev. J. E. Jones, D. D., Mr. W. P. Burrell, Mr. M. B. Jones.

REMARKABLE EVIDENCE OF DEBT.

Each one gave a note, and each of these notes were endorsed by all of the others. They were made payable in gold coin and Mr. R. T. Hill was made trustee with the power and instructions to confess judgment on said notes in any court where action might be brought.

They waived the right of both the makers of the notes and the endorsers to the homestead exemption and pledged each and every one to also relinquish all rights to demand on account of any irregularity in the proceedings. These notes were given in order to secure a loan by the Virginia Baptist Publishing Co., publishers of the Virginia Baptist of this city.

The amount advanced by the late Rev. W. W. Browne was \$800.

HAD PAID SOME MONEY.

The persons who had paid \$9, presumably for interest charges were given credit for that amount. The notes were so drastic in their provision that no defense could be maintained in a court of law.

Messrs. W. P. Burrell, M. B. Jones and Rev. Dr. J. E. Jones paid each \$100 but they are on all of the other notes as endorser. Giles B. Jackson, Esq., attorney for Mrs. M. A. Browne, filed a memorandum in the case, and in company with Mr. R. T. Hill who in keeping with the instructions of the notes confessed judgment before Judge Wellford and the same was rendered against the persons specified.

It is stated the judgments will be docketed and the sheriff will levy upon the interest of the aforesaid parties in the Virginia Baptist. This it is stated will give the purchaser the controlling interest in that publication.

His Birthday Party.

The birthday of Mr. James Redd was celebrated Tuesday night, Oct. 18th, and many of his friends were invited and many present, at No. 22 E. Jackson St.

THE PLOT AT KNOXVILLE.

A BOLD AND SUCCESSFUL EFFORT To Oust Colored Officers.

The War Department Silent---It Acquiesces In The Outrage.

The Governor's Predicament---He Faithfully Adhered to His Former Position

Mr. J. Gen. Lee's Testimony

"As to the efficiency of officers (white) appointed from civil life some of them learned the duties promptly, others were very slow to learn, others never learned, but a majority did. I believe that volunteers will always become effective, especially when confronted by the enemy."—War Investigating Commission.

NO BOARD OF EXAMINERS

FOR WHITE OFFICERS.

COLOR A PREREQUISITE TO THE WEARING OF SHOULDER-STRAPS.

COLORED TROOPS TO FACE YELLOW FEVER AND SMALL-POX IN CUBA.

RECOMMENDED PROMOTIONS FROM THE RANKS—LIEUTENANT COLONEL CROXTON, OBDURATE—TROUBLE AHEAD FOR THE SIXTH VIRGINIA REGIMENT.

The Sixth Virginia Regiment volunteered with the understanding that it would be mustered in under the command of its own officers. The matter was duly considered at the state executive mansion and the War Department.

Gov. J. Hoge Tyler, however appointed a Mr. Croxtan as Lieutenant-Colonel. It was evident soon after he took charge at Camp Corbin, near this city that he did not like the idea of having colored officers and that he would do all in his power to get rid of them.

When it was ascertained that the regiment would not be mustered out, but would be transported to Knoxville, Tenn., it was evident that trouble would commence.

THE TROUBLE AT KNOXVILLE.

The Georgia regiment annoyed the colored troops, and no doubt Lieutenant-Colonel Croxtan coming in contact with the prejudiced southern officers decided upon the scheme which has worked so successfully. The War Department was requested to order a Board of Examiners, composed of these prejudiced officers to examine into and report upon the efficiency of nine of the officers of the Sixth Virginia Regiment.

A DISTINCTION WITH A DIFFERENCE.

In order to avoid the appearance of discriminating on account of color, Major J. B. Johnson, Capt. W. A. Hawkins and Capt. B. A. Graves were not disturbed. Assistant Surgeon C. R. Alexander was not included, because the examination of him would have led to the examination of Assistant Surgeon Black (white).

A LIST OF THE VICTIMS.

The following however were marked for slaughter: Major W. H. Johnson, of Petersburg, Va.; Capt. Charles B. Nicholas, of Richmond; Capt. James C. Hill and Capt. J. A. G. Stevens, of Petersburg, Va.; Capt. Edward W. Gould and Capt. Peter Shepherd, Jr., of Norfolk; and Lieutenants S. B. Randolph, George T. Wright and David Worrell.

All of these officers had been examined by the military board of Virginia and pronounced competent.

THE EXAMINERS FAILED TO EXAMINE.

Accordingly, when the War Department ordered the Board of Examiners to report to the Sixth Virginia Regiment and examine the officers, there was no alternative for these gentlemen but to resign or be declared incompetent by a Board selected for that purpose. That they could not hope to pass was plainly evident by the fact that Lieutenant-Colonel Croxtan declaring in advance that they could not. No time had been given them to prepare themselves for the ordeal, and they promptly resigned.

THE RESIGNATIONS ACCEPTED.

The War Department accepted their resignations and notified Gov. J. Hoge Tyler. He in turn instructed Lieutenant-Colonel Croxtan to promote from the ranks of the regiment and send the names to him. This would have given the regiment another corp of colored officers and the aforesaid Croxtan declined to do it.

WHITE OFFICERS COMMISSIONED.

His Excellency there-upon made the following white appointments and duly commissioned them: Captain Charles Elliott Cabell, of the Quartermaster's department, of the First Army Corps, now stationed at Knoxville to be Major.

To be captains—Captain Robert L. Messervy, Company M, Third Regiment; Captain William S. Faulkner, Company E, Third Regiment; First Lieutenant George H. Bentley, Company G, Second Regiment; First Lieutenant Sydney T. Moore, Company D, Second Regiment.

To be First-Lieutenants—Sergeant-Major John W. Healy, United States Army; First Lieutenant R. O. L. Monroe, Company I, Third Regiment; First-Sergeant William D. Richardson, Company K, Third Regiment.

THE PECULIAR PART.

The peculiar part about the affair is that the officers can get out of the service and the privates cannot. Thus they have been led into a trap, so to speak.

Pressure should be at once brought to bear upon the Secretary of War to have the Sixth Virginia Regiment mustered out of service.

The colored officers of the regiment should have employed counsel at Washington in order to have this brought about. It is an unfortunate affair all the way through and whatever is to be done must be done quickly.

A meeting of the citizens was held at Harris' Hall, Monday night, James H. Hayes, Esq., presiding.

A committee, consisting of James H. Hayes, Esq., Rev. Dr. W. F. Graham, Rev. Dr. James H. Holmes, Rev. Dr. Z. D. Lewis, was appointed to visit the War Department.

Secretary Alger was seen and stated that he could do nothing, the matter being in the hands of the Governor of Virginia.

Who Can Refuse to Help the Poor.

There will be a Grand Concert, Dedicatory Recital, Cuban Drill and Juvenile Quadrille at the True Reformers' hall, Monday evening, Nov. 7, 1898 at 8 o'clock. The following artists have consented to assist: Mesdames Fannie Payne Walker, S. Alice Kemp Burrell, Carrie B. Hawkins and Misses Florence Ranning and A. Deborah Patterson. A rare treat. Don't fail to come. All for the benefit of the Poor. Mrs. Olivia C. Holden, Pianist. Admission, only 10 cents.

For strictly first-class work, call up the Richmond Steam Laundry.

Maj Gen. Graham's Testimony

"Referring to (white) officers appointed from civil life, General Graham said that some of them had proved efficient, but that others were incorrigible. Some of them were, he said, too old to learn."—War Investigating Commission.

CAMP POLAND NOTES

6th Va. Vol. Inf., Camp Poland, Knoxville, Tenn., October 28, 1898.

All of the officers who have resigned, have left Camp, and returned to their respective homes. Nothing official is known here of the appointment of white officers to fill the vacancies, although our future looks gloomy enough, with this in view, and the prospect of moving further South the situation is beginning to assume a discouraging effect.

The weather for two weeks has been very cool, and it is as much as the men can do to keep themselves warm. Large campfires are lighted in the company streets every night, and with the assistance of heavy blankets the men can scarcely keep comfortable.

VERY FEW SICK.

Very few of the men are sick however, and only five men are confined to the hospital. All of last week was holiday for the folks of Knoxville. It being their Annual Carnival, and held for four days. Thursday was Military Day and all the regiment, encamped here, were out in the parade, being reviewed by Governor Bushnell of Ohio. It was a grand and imposing sight, as the 10,000 men marched down Gay street, the main thoroughfare of the city to the tunes of martial music. Your correspondent, in the afternoon, visited the Negro Exhibit and noticed many works of art, and value made by the colored citizens of Knoxville and vicinity.

Saturday night, the "Battle of Manilla" was presented in fire-works on the Tennessee River. Thousands of visitors were on the river-front to witness the spectacle, which was very good indeed. The horses, rearing and boarding houses were overtaxed to accommodate the large number of visitors who came from every part of the State.

THE LITERARY ASSOCIATION.

The 6th Literary Association gave a grand concert assisted by the Orchestra of Company C, and a quartette of Company H, which was highly appreciated by the students of Knoxville College, Monday evening.

Dr. McCullough, who presides over the college is an eminent Presbyterian divine, and takes a great deal of personal interest in the welfare of his students.

Captain W. A. Hawkins who had a relapse last week is now convalescing, and is expected out in a few days. All of the men with the exception of the Guard have been granted passes to attend the Forepaugh circus, which is in town to-day.

The Y. M. C. A. tent returns thanks to Miss Fannie E. Robinson, President of the Christian Endeavor Society of the First Baptist Church in Richmond, for the donation of a large bundle of

Christian Endeavor Literature which the men highly appreciate. Rev. E. S. Pogue, A. B., formerly of Virginia, but now pastor of the Little Zion Baptist Church of Knoxville, addressed the men Monday night. A large number of visitors to the Carnival have visited the tent during the week.

HAM.

Before Hymenal Altar.

Thursday evening, Oct. 20th, 1898, at 9:30 o'clock a brilliant nuptial event took place at No. 18 E. Federal St., City. It was the uniting in wedlock of Mr. Clement Taylor and Mrs. Martha Dabney, both of Richmond, Va. The marriage ceremony was performed by Rev. Z. D. Lewis, D. D., pastor of the Second Baptist Church, assisted by Rev. P. S. Lewis, B. D., State Missionary. The attendance was large, and the presents were many and costly.

After an excellent repast, at 11 o'clock the happy couple entered a carriage with their attendants and were driven to their future home, 1301 N. 1st St., and the guests dispersed leaving their best wishes.

The Planet trusts that the journey of this couple through life be a success and their pathway strewn with flowers.

A BRILLIANT MARRIAGE.

Miss Delilah A. Allmond of Pamunkey Reservation and Mr. Hawkes of Petersburg were married Oct. 20, 1898, at noon at Rev. P. E. Throckmorton's, No. 804 Graham St., Fulton, Richmond, Va. The bride is the daughter of the "Big Diver" of the Pamunkey Indian Reservation of King William Co., Va. He is a man of great influence.

When the hour for the nuptial knot to be tied arrived those who sat under the bridal couple, besides Rev. B. Cabell Henning, pastor of Fulton Baptist Church and several members of Mr. Throckmorton's family, were Mr. R. G. Bottom, Mr. J. S. Winn, Mrs. Jennie Farrington, Miss Virginia Allmond, sister of the bride who acted as maid of honor, was dressed in a beautiful white dress trimmed with lavender ribbon and sash. Mr. Thomas Allmond also the bride's cousin acted as best man.

The bride's costume was of white silk low neck trimmed with orange blossoms and white satin ribbon. It was made very simple, but tasty. She wore a wreath and veil and carried a beautiful bouquet of roses which was sent from Washington as compliments of Mr. S. C. Lequire. Her dark Indian type formed a striking contrast with the costume.

GIFT FROM THE GROOM.

Immediately after prayer Rev. Henning stepped forward and presented the wedding ring and a handsome gold watch and chain the gift of the groom. After the marriage, the "Big Diver" embraced and kissed his daughter and cordially shook hands with his son-in-law. Good wishes were expressed all around and after partaking of cake and cream, the bridal party left for Petersburg their future home.

MAGNO'S MESSAGE.

SUNDAY AT THE CHURCHES.

FACTS ABOUT THE WEDDING RING.

Disappointed His Bride—Many Recollections—Other Items From the Ward.

"The year growing ancient, Not yet in summer's death, nor on the birth Of trembling winter."

The above extract was a favorable conclusion on last Sunday when our people appeared before the public's eye in their autumnal wear. "Summer has died," they said, "yet winter is not born."

Our well attended church was the scenes of the thoughtful ch. n. es.

At the Fifth St. Church, Rev. Dr. Graham grasped his flock in rich pastures and ate with them the Lord's Supper.

Rev. Wells, the sage of Ebenezer is still proclaiming the Word of Truth to his congregation, and is held in high esteem.

Rev. R. O. Johnson, B. D., talk with the Psalmist on last Sunday morning, and typified Christ on Mt. Calvary in his narration. He administered the Lord's Supper in the afternoon.

The question has been and is being asked, "How does the Wedding Ring express any thoughts of love?" In our mind, the following thoughts seem to prevail: First, as to its continuity; secondly, as to its permanence, and thirdly, as to its equality.

The love of married life should be continuous, and the ring is a symbol of this, because it is round and has no beginning nor ending. The ring is gold and this suggests its permanence; for the permanence of gold is known in all ages.

As so many are about to apply this ring as a token of their relationship to each other in the near future, it should be remembered that it is a token of honor, and when the husband loses the wedding ring, he should always honor his wife.

The English takes it for granted that a man entertains a high opinion of the woman he marries, for in the marriage service the man says: "With this ring I thee wed, with my body I thee worship," i. e., honor."

We hope that the foregoing has given our readers as well as those debaters some ideas of the "Wedding Ring."

The young man who told his girl that he was going to take her on his bridal tour to Danville last week got to the depot too late. They got there at 5 o'clock, when the train left at 4. Thus they stayed at home. Whose fault was it? He says he left his horses at the Courthouse, and couldn't get ready in time.

Chills and fevers seem to be prevalent in this section, and many are the victims.

The following is the short conversation of one of our courting couples: She—What a beautiful day for a drive. He—Yes, it's too bad your father hasn't a horse.

There are two things in which we should thoroughly train ourselves to be slow in taking offense, and to be slower in giving it.

Says she—"If you kiss me again I'll call mamma." He—"Well, I don't mind that," she is still a young-looking woman."

The folks who say they never make a mistake, makes one just there.

The concert given at the True Reformers' Hall on the 17th inst., by the Y. M. C. A. was rich. Mr. Louis Allen Fisher was indeed a songster of rare note.

Mr. James L. Barrell is still improving.

MAGNO UNO.

\$150.00 PAID.

RICHMOND, Va., Oct. 24, 1898. This is to certify that I have received from John Mitchell, Jr., Grand Chancellor of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, (\$150.00) One Hundred and Fifty Dollars in payment of the endowment of my husband, William H. Anderson, who was a member of Blooming Lily Lodge, No. 15, N. A., S. A., E. A., & A. Signed,

MAGGIE B. ANDERSON.

Witnesses: Foster L. Lucas, Isaiah Christian, W. H. Hill.

\$150.00 PAID.

DANVILLE, Va., Oct. 13, '98. This is to certify that I have received from John Mitchell, Jr., Grand Chancellor of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, (\$150.00) One Hundred and Fifty Dollars in payment of the death claim of my husband, W. S. Wieher, who was a member of Roman Eagle Lodge, No. 18, Knights of Pythias, N. A., S. A., E. A., & A. and A. Signed,

Mrs. MARY WITCHER. Witnesses:—John W. Howard, Moravian, No. 13, K. of P.; L. N. Holbrook, Roman Eagle, No. 18; W. A. Millner, D. D. G. C.